Statement

Cabinet approved a new industrial policy for the North Eastern Region on Novemer 20, 1997. Ministry of Industry notified this Policy on December 24, 1997. The salient features of the policy are as follows:

1. Expenditure on Growth Centres, up to Rs. 15 crores would be met through Central assistance.
2. Funding pattern for Integrated Infrastructure Development Centres (IIDCs) changed from 2:3 between Government of India and SIDBI to 4:1. The Government of India funds would be in the nature of grant.
3. Transport subsidy scheme has been extended by 7 years upto 31.3.2007 and amount to be disbursed through North Eastern Development Finance Corporation.
4. Industries located in the Growth Centres would be given capital investment subsidy at the rate of 15% on Plant & Machinery subject to a ceiling of Rs. 30 lakhs.
5. Growth Centres & IIDCs become tax-free zones for income tax and excise duty for a period of 10 years. Certain high growth potential industries have also been given the tax-free status irrespective of the location in the North-East.
6. An interest subsidy of 3% on the working capital loans would be provided for a period of ten years after the commencement of production.
7. Comprehensive Insurance Scheme for new industrial units has been put in place.

Notification issued for all aforesaid major items envisaged in the Policy.

Performance of EPZ and special export zones

29. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently reviewed the performance of EPZ and special export zones;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, EPZ-wise and percentage of total export from the States, State-wise; and

(c) the details of further policy initiatives proposed to boost up exports and strengthening of institutional Network?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Performance of Export Processing Zones (EPZs) is constantly under review and the exports made from EPZs during the last three years are given as statement (*See below*). State-wise data on exports is not maintained. Special Economic Zones are, however, yet to become operational.

(c) Some of the measures introduced in the Export and Import Policy effective from 1.4.2000 to boost exports from EPZs and for strengthening institutional framework include rationalisation of norms on minimum Net Foreign Exchange as Percentage of exports (NFEP) and minimum export performance, facility to undertake job work for exports on behalf of domestic exporters so as to utilise idle capacity to all sectors, easier import of DG set and spares, reimbursement of import duty on furnace oil, duty free importability of fuels and decentralisation and delegation of greater powers to Development Commissioners of EPZs.

Statement

Performance of EPZs during the last three years.

EXPORTS(Rs. crores)

Name of the EPZ	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
Kandla Free Trade Zone, Kandla	464.05	391.81	543.66
Santacruz Electronics Export Processing Zone, Bombay	2517.68	3281.84	4112.62
Noida Export Processing Zone, Noida	604.09	752.07	845.63
Madras Export Processing Zone, Madras	1003.98	535.94	545.42
Cochin Export processing Zone, Cochin	174.51	200.05	241.00
Falta Export Processing Zone, Calcutta	52.94	72.77	266.60
Visakhapatnam Export Processing Zone, Visakhapatnam	0.05	18.00	119.04
Total	4817.30	5252.48	6673.97